

Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 110900Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 5174

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF, CJCS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, BEXP, SW

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE SALE OF SWEDISH AIRCRAFT (VIGGEN)

REF: STOCKHOLM 5060

1. CONFIRMING INFORMATION CONTAINED IN STOCKHOLM 5060, DR. CURT MILEIKOWSKY AND DR. TORE GULLSTRAND OF SAAB-SCANIA CALLED ON ME YESTERDAY TO CONFIRM TO ME THE APPROACH MADE BY THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING VIGGEN AND TO SEEK MY SUPPORT.

2. ACCORDING TO DR. MILEIKOWSKY, THE INDIANS HAVE ASKED FOR PROPOSALS FROM SWEDEN, GREAT BRITIAN AND FRANCE AND ARE SCHEDULED TO MAKE A DECISION THIS YEAR ON WHICH AIRCRAFT, IF ANY, THEY WILL PURCHASE.

3. SAAB-SCANIA APPARENTLY HAS PERMISSION FROM THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT TO PROCEED WITH A RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. AS A PRIME CONTRACTOR, SAAB HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE INDIANS TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY PERMITS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO EXPORT THOSE PARTS OF THE VIGGEN THAT ORIGINATE IN THE U.S. OR ARE BUILT IN SWEDEN ON LICENSE. PRINCIPAL OF THESE PARTS IS THE ENGINE, A MODIFIED PRATT & WHITNEY JT8D, MANUFACTURED ON LICENSE BY VOLVO FLY MOTOR. THERE ARE ADDITIONALLY, QUITE A NUMBER OF ELECTRONIC AND MECHANICAL COMPONENTS TO THE

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AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE OF U.S. MANUFACTURE.

4. I SUPPORT A VIGGEN SALE TO INDIA AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT
STAND IN THE WAY OF AN AMERICAN PRODUCT, BECAUSE 1) THE MAINTENANCE
OF A VIGOROUS SWEDISH DEFENSE INDUSTRY, AND 2) THE DIVERSIFICATION
OF INDIAN DEFENSE PROCUREMENT AND, HENCE, LESSENER INDIAN DEPENDENCE
ON SOVIET UNION LIE IN OUR INTEREST. STRAUZ-HUPE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF, CJCS.

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NNN

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